

Four New Furnaces Are Being Built For Combination Units Nos. 5-6-7-8

Work began recently on four new furnaces, one for each of the Combination Units Nos. 5, 6, 7 & 8. Foundation work for No. 8 C.U. furnace began in May, with completion of the furnace erection scheduled in December this year. The fourth furnace will be ready for operation approximately in March next year.

The modern furnaces will have a new look, with the bottom of the furnaces installed 12 feet above ground level on a set of reinforced concrete and steel supports.

Each furnace is equipped with ten Esso burners, a new type of burner at Lago which will assure more efficient furnace operation. The burners will fire upwards and will burn pitch instead of fuel gas. This will release more fuel gas for use by the new HDS units.

To abate noise, the air supply for the burners will be provided from underground ducts which will be insulated from ground level up to the bottom of the furnace, while mufflers will be installed at

the burners.

The walls of the 60 feet long, 20 feet wide and 40 feet high furnaces will be lined with heavy duty fire bricks with a high aluminum content. On top of each furnace, a 10-foot diameter steel smokestack will be erected with the top rising some 200 feet above the ground.

The new furnaces were designed by engineers of Esso Research & Engineering while Foster Wheeler Italiana is in charge of the mechanical design and supply. Foundation work and piping installation will be carried out by A. G. McKee & Co. and the erection of the furnaces will be done by Saipem.

In charge of the process design of the new furnaces was J. L. Templet of Technical-Process Engineering.

The total project, costing about Fls. 7,500,000, is being executed under supervision of Project Manager Allan Temple, with H. J. Frederiks as field engineer, and Isaac Chin and Gene Goley as project engineers.